

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04

OPIC-06 SP-02 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05

SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 L-03 H-02 DODE-00 PA-02 PRS-01

DOT-00 /123 W

----- 066582

R 090233Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 670

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS TOKYO 10313

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD JA

SUBJECT: AUTOMOBILES: MITI PROPOSAL TO EXPAND CAR IMPORTS

1. ACCORDING TO THE JULY 7 NIHON KEIZAI, MITI HAS "DECIDED TO UNDERTAKE" CAR IMPORT EXPANSION MEASURES INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SALES AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR IMPORTED CARS. THE MITI PROPOSAL IS DESIGNED TO OFFSET SOMEWHAT ANTICIPATED OVERSEAS REACTION AGAINST A FURTHER PROJECTED INCREASE IN JAPANESE PASSENGER CAR EXPORTS (NOW PROJECTED AT 3.2 MILLION ANNUALLY AS COMPARED TO 1.8 MILLION IN 1975).

2. MITI'S PROPOSAL ALSO REPORTEDLY INCLUDES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL AGENCIES TO ASSURE BETTER AFTER-SALES SERVICE ON IMPORTS AND THE POSSIBLE DISPATCH OF "IMPORT PROMOTION MISSIONS" OVERSEAS TO COLLECT INFORMATION FROM MANUFACTURERS.

3. EMBOFF SPOKE WITH MITI OFFICIAL WHO CONFIRMED THAT SUCH AN IDEAS HAS BEEN FLOATED WITHIN MITI AND THAT PRESS ARTICLE IS "SUBSTANTIALLY CORRECT". ANY FORWARD MOVEMENT OF PROPOSAL

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DEPENDENT ON ADDITIONAL FINANCING WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE

INCLUDED BY MOF IN JFY 1977 BUDGET. MITI WILL KNOW ABOUT  
SEPTEMBER 1 WHETHER SUCH ADDITIONAL FINANCING WILL BE  
FORTHCOMING.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: MITI IDEA APPEARS TO US TO BE  
ILLUSTRATIVE OF THEIR CONCERN ABOUT THE AUTO PROBLEM AND  
THEIR WILLINGNESS TO BE CREATIVE IN SEEKING TO INCREASE AUTO  
IMPORTS.  
HODGSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** IMPORTS, AUTOMOBILES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976TOKYO10313  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760264-0691  
**From:** TOKYO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 70  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** schwenja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 FEB 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 FEB 2004 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by schwenja>  
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EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AUTOMOBILES: MITI PROPOSAL TO EXPAND CAR IMPORTS  
**TAGS:** ETRD, ELTN, JA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006